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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**BOONE COUNTY MAN CHARGED WITH ILLEGAL
POSSESSION OF A FIREARM**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that TIMOTHY J. RAGSDALE, 28, Lebanon, Indiana, was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis today for felon in possession of a firearm, following an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives, and the Lebanon Police Department.

According to the indictment, on August 13, 2003, Lebanon, Indiana police officers responded to a complaint regarding Ragsdale. Officers approached Ragsdale who was standing next to his Ford pickup truck and conducted a search of the truck based upon

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evidence developed. As officers observed Ragsdale, he allegedly reached into the rear of the cab and moved a duffle bag. As the bag was moved, an officer noticed a shotgun on the floorboard of the truck. The charges state that it appeared to the officer that Ragsdale was ready to reach for the shotgun. The officers immediately ordered Ragsdale away and retrieved a Winchester 1200 12 gauge shotgun. The shotgun allegedly had been modified with a pistol grip and was loaded.

According to Assistant United States Attorney James M. Warden, who is prosecuting the case for the government, RAGSDALE faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 10 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis.

The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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